

Breathe Easier

HELP CALIFORNIA BREATHE EASIER
REPAIR OR RETIRE YOUR POLLUTING VEHICLE



“EVERY TIME WE TAKE A HIGH-POLLUTING CAR OFF THE ROAD, WE TAKE A POSITIVE STEP TOWARD CLEANING THE AIR AND IMPROVING OUR ENVIRONMENT.”

Charlene Zettel
Director, California Department of Consumer Affairs

Thanks to California emission standards, new vehicles are cleaner than ever. But older or poorly maintained vehicles contribute significantly to pollutants pumped into California's air every day. According to the California Air Resources Board, California vehicles produce more than 2,000 tons of pollution daily. On average, older vehicles (20-25 years old) produce up to 30 times more emissions than newer vehicles. A gross-polluting car can produce up to 40 pounds of smog-forming vehicle emissions per year.

You can help clean up our air by repairing or retiring your polluting vehicle.

If your vehicle fails its Smog Check, California has a program that may be able to help. The California Bureau of Automotive Repair's Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) can help pay for repairs, or it may pay you to retire your polluting vehicle.

For vehicle owners, the first step to becoming eligible for the CAP is to complete and submit a CAP application. Owners can obtain a CAP application online at www.smogcheck.ca.gov or by calling toll free 1-800-952-5210.

For more information, go to www.breatheeasier.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

www.dca.ca.gov www.smogcheck.ca.gov (800) 952-5210

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The Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) Can Help You Clear the Air

The Bureau of Automotive Repair's Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) is there to help Californians do their part to clean the air, if their high-polluting vehicle fails its Smog Check.

CAP offers a repair-assistance or vehicle-retirement option. To qualify for vehicle retirement, a vehicle that fails its Smog Check

must have been continuously registered for 24 months, pass an inspection at the dismantler site, and meet certain other eligibility requirements. The owner will receive a check from the dismantling facility that retires the vehicle. To qualify for repair assistance, the owner of a car that fails its Smog Check must meet income-eligibility requirements or have been directed to a Test Only station.

CAP targets the vehicles that are the worst polluters. They make up only about ten percent of all the vehicles that are on the road, but they are putting out about half of the pollution. The money for CAP comes from a portion of a \$12 annual fee paid by new vehicle owners, who are exempt from Smog Check for the first six years.



"TRAFFIC-RELATED POLLUTION IS ASSOCIATED WITH RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS IN CHILDREN."

East Bay Children's
Respiratory Health Study
*Office of Environmental Health Hazard
Assessment, California Environmental
Protection Agency*

Air Pollution Damages Our Health and It's Costly

Studies show there is a link between vehicle pollution, poor air quality and negative health effects.

Air pollution contributes to respiratory health problems. Asthma is the most prevalent chronic disease among California children. Asthma disproportionately affects school-aged children and is a leading cause of school absenteeism. It results in missed workdays and lost productivity for adults.

According to the California Department of Health Services, asthma-related hospitalizations cost \$480 million in California in 2000.

Clean air makes our state a more desirable place to live, visit or to locate a business.

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